

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 172

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Billy F. Featherstone of Dresden.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Billy F. Featherstone; and

WHEREAS, Billy Featherstone was a commendable public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Featherstone was born October 13, 1929, in Christmasville, Tennessee, to the late Bowdie and Vera Dunn Featherstone; and

WHEREAS, Billy F. Featherstone ensured the individual and collective freedom of all Americans by serving in the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to the entrepreneurial spirit, Billy Featherstone was the owner of Dresden Department Store, Dresden Ben Franklin Store, and Bill's Frame Shop; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Featherstone was an active and devout member of the Dresden First United Methodist church, which he served faithfully as the Sunday School Superintendent, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, President of the Young Men's Bible Class, Chairman of the Fellowship Hall Window Committee, member of the Parsonage Committee, and as the cook for the Methodist Men; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Featherstone was a dedicated civic leader who distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his work with numerous organizations, including his charter membership in Dresden Jaycees and the Dresden Business Association, which organized the annual Iris Festival, and he also served with wisdom and enthusiasm as the president of the Dresden Rotary Club, with a thirty year perfect attendance record; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Featherstone supported the character development of the youth of our great State by serving as the exemplary adult leader of Cub Scout Pack 40 and Boy Scout Troop 40; and

WHEREAS, Billy Featherstone was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Featherstone enjoyed the loving and devoted companionship of his wife, Betty Rucker Featherstone, and was the proud father of Amy Ray, who is the wife of Jerry Ray, and Andy Featherstone, who is the husband of Tammy Featherstone; he is also survived by his sister, Virginia Walker; four grandchildren, Mark Ray, who is the husband of Jeri Ray, Martha Ray, Susan Featherstone, and Sam Featherstone; and one great-grandchild, Emma Ray; and

WHEREAS, Billy F. Featherstone was preceded in death by his parents, Bowdie and Vera Dunn Featherstone, and his brother, Ray Featherstone; and

WHEREAS, Billy Featherstone leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Billy F. Featherstone, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Featherstone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.